

**July 24, 2014 meeting minutes  
Cambridge GLBT Commission**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, September 18, 2014 (a week earlier than usual because of Rosh Hashana the following week)**

Call to Order.

Kevin Shpritzer recorded these minutes.

Agenda for the July 24 meeting was accepted.

The minutes of the June 26 meeting were approved.

**Commissioners Present:** Kevin Shpritzer, Aren Stone, Bill Barnert, Rachel Oppenheimer, Steven Lee, Maggie Giles, Mal Malme, Neil Scannell, Kara Smith, Paul Miller, Neil MacInnes-Barker, Lesley Phillips, Caitlin Drechsler

**Commissioners Absent:** (excused) –Kristina Mastropasqua, John Gintell, Anna Weick, Bob Parlin, Gregory Grays-Thomas, Mike McKenna

**Guests:** Russ Wolf (Northeastern Student researching partnerships between the Cambridge Police Department and other agencies and organizations in the community)

**I. Welcome**

**II. Police Report**

- a. Superintendent Burke was unable to attend tonight's meeting.
- b. He reported, via email, that he has commitments from some contributors for the municipal employee LGBT cultural competency training and is still awaiting word from several others. Things are still moving forward but realistically won't begin to take shape until September.
- c. Aren, Bill, Neil S. and Caitlin told Russ about how the Cambridge Police has and continues to work with the Commission.

**III. Future Events**

- a. Oktoberfest – Sun. October 12
  - i. Kevin will apply for the Commission's table at Oktoberfest.
  - ii. We will work on staffing the event over email or at the September meeting.
- b. Danehy Park Family Day – September ?
  - i. The date has not been posted anywhere and it is unclear whether it is being held this year.
  - ii. If it happens, we will most likely *not* participate in the event this year.

**IV. May 16 Marriage Equality 10-year Anniversary event**

- a. We would like to make a web page commemorating this event and about Cambridge's history of marriage equality.
- b. Steven will contact Ed Byrne about the City's plans to create this webpage.
- c. Neil has a lot of video footage from the event, taken from four cameras.
- d. Funding is his main challenge to putting together a commemorative video, since he no longer has volunteers to help edit.

- e. He will write a proposal to submit to the City to request funds.

**V. Meeting – Sarah Boyer (Cambridge Historical Commission)**

- a. Aren met with Sarah prior to tonight's Commission meeting.
- b. Sarah recorded some oral histories at the May 16 event.
- c. She wants to work with the Commission on creating an LGBT history of Cambridge.
- d. Sarah also wants to brainstorm how to get LGBT senior housing centers in the Boston area.
- e. She would like to come to one of our fall meetings.

**VI. Meeting – Melody Brazo (Cambridge School Dept. LGBT Parent Liason)**

- a. Aren is going to meet with Melody.
- b. She will discuss the possible teacher event and our other fall event (see section VII).
- c. Melody's title will be changing, and we'd like to find out how that change will affect her role.

**VII. Possible Fall Events**

- a. Bisexuality in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
  - i. The Commission decided to sponsor and support this event.
  - ii. We would like to invite all the GSAs in the area.
  - iii. Bill has two potential speakers lined up.
  - iv. This event will most likely be at the Cambridge Public Library. Bill will contact the library to set up some possible dates, likely in October around National Coming Out Day.
  - v. Lesley, Maggie, Bill, and Caitlin will help with the planning.
  - vi. Bill will let the Commission know about an upcoming meeting, since other members might like to join the organizing committee.
- b. Transgender film/panel
  - i. We discussed the possibility of hosting an event around the Transgender Day of Remembrance (November 20).
    - 1. Should we do both events?
      - a. The Commission discussed whether or not we have the capacity to put on these two large events within a few weeks of each other.
      - b. *We voted to fully sponsor and support an October Bisexuality-focused event and to put on a Transgender-focused event in the Spring.*
- c. At our next meeting, we will have a discussion of preferred language to use when discussing people's sexual orientations and gender identities.

**VIII. Interns**

- a. Taha Jennings of the Cambridge Development Department is our liasion to the City for working with our interns.
- b. He is working on developing a job description at this time.
- c. We need a committee to help guide the interns and refine their roles.
- d. John, Aren and Steven will take on this task.

**IX. Cambridge Employees Standards of Conduct (CESC)**

- a. Paul will assist Aren with getting language to read “gender identity and expression” written into the CESC where appropriate.

**X. Communications – committee report**

- a. The Commission revisited a discussion about the name of the Commission newsletter on which Bill has been working.
- b. We will vote on the newsletter’s name at the next meeting.
- c. The Committee will also look into changing language on our website to “gender identity and expression” where appropriate.

**XI. Public Comment**

- a. A member of the public brought a personal matter to our attention in case she wants help from the Commission at a later date.

**XII. Announcements**

- a. Neil M.’s documentary about Youth on Fire, *No Place Like Home*, will be screened at an international film festival in India this weekend!
- b. Bill announced that Chris Mason’s (former Commissioner) movie, *Driving Equality Across America*, is premiering July 31 at the Auditorium at Fenway Health.
- c. Neil S. announced that next week is family week in Provincetown – sponsored by Mass Equality and Collage.
- d. Paul wrote an op-ed for *The Advocate* regarding the Gordon College controversy.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm